



A Syrian refugee, with her family in Ramtha, Jordan; UNHCR / J. Kohler / February 2014

ENN Annual Report

1 February 2014 – 31 January 2015

Introduction.....

ENN was set up in 1996 to improve practice and strengthen the institutional memory of agencies involved in the emergency food and nutrition sectors. ENN is governed by a board of trustees and steered by four Technical Directors. ENN operations are supported by an Oxford based team. A strong global network of ENN Associates extends ENN's capacity to implement a wide range of projects while keeping overhead costs to a minimum. ENN partners with and/or is financially supported by many bilateral (government) agencies, United Nations (UN) agencies and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and works closely with academic institutions and expert individuals.

The ENN's Purpose

ENN's purpose is to strengthen the evidence regarding effective nutrition interventions and to

use this evidence to inform policy and programming. ENN does this by enabling nutrition networking and learning amongst practitioners, policy makers and researchers to build the evidence base for nutrition programming. More specifically, we capture and exchange experiences of practitioners through our regular, established publications and online technical forum; we undertake research and reviews where evidence is weak, we broker technical discussion where agreement is lacking, and we support global level leadership and stewardship in nutrition.

Our focus is communities in crisis and where under-nutrition is a chronic problem. Our work is guided by what practitioners need to work effectively.

The ENN's Objectives

Four strategic objectives underpin ENN's purpose:

Objective 1:
To support the identification, dissemination and application of positive developments in nutrition related practice in different contexts through publication, networks and forums.

Objective 2:
To identify, instigate, implement and publish operations research and technical and systems reviews in order to strengthen the evidence base for policy making, resource allocation and programming.

Objective 3:
To facilitate inter-agency cooperation, discussion and agreement on key technical areas.

Objective 4:
To seek to more effectively represent the needs of practitioners in global leadership and stewardship fora.

The ENN's Outputs and Activities

Evaluation of ENNs 5 year strategy

During the last months of 2014 work began for commissioning a comprehensive external evaluation of ENN, to take place during May/June of 2015. This evaluation will

provide ENN with an opportunity to reflect on ENN's strategic period 2010-2015 <http://www.ennonline.net/enstrategy>

ENN's outputs and activities in 2014 are detailed below, by strategic objective.

Objective 1 To support the identification, dissemination and application of positive developments in nutrition related practice in different contexts through publication, networks and forums.



Field Exchange (www.ennonline.net/fex)

Field Exchange (FEX) is ENN's flagship publication that is an established online and print technical

publication on nutrition and food security in emergencies and high burden contexts. A routine edition of FEX was produced in April 2014 (issue 47), which featured articles on the impact of milling vouchers to improve food security in Sudan, animal nutrition and welfare interventions to promote child nutrition and innovations around IYCF indicators at programming level. In November 2014 a special triple edition of FEX was produced on the nutrition response to the Syria crisis (issue 48). For the development of Issue 48 the FEX editorial team completed interviews with more than 70 HQ, regional and country based staff, and visited programmes in Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan to gain a thorough understanding of the context. Subsequently, the ENN team supported the development of 54 FEX articles. As well as nutrition-spe-

cific programming (e.g. acute malnutrition treatment, support to infant and young child feeding), nutrition-sensitive/multi-sectoral experiences also featured, with considerable content on cash programming, in addition to WASH, shelter and health, and articles representing country and regional perspectives. The edition proved much larger than originally planned, so an online issue was produced that included all content, available both by country and as a whole. Additionally a smaller print edition was published alongside, featuring a selection of content most relevant to an international audience. This special edition produced both a valuable and an evidence-based overview of the nutrition response in Syria. A views piece produced by ENN was published in this edition and it was also summarised and published as an article for Humanitarian Exchange online, available from <http://odihpn.org/>

Nutrition Exchange

(www.enonline.net/nex)

Nutrition Exchange (NEX) is an ENN publication that contains short, easy-to-read articles on nutrition programme experiences and learning, from countries with a high burden of malnutrition and those that are prone to crisis, geared towards a national and sub-national audience. Issue 4 of Nutrition Exchange (NEX) was produced during this period and made available in English (June 2014), French (July 2014) and Arabic (August 2014). Issue 4 heralded the first NEX issue with over 60% content written by national actors involved in nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive programming. Twelve original articles written by national actors were included from Chad, Ethiopia, Kenya, Pakistan, Somalia, Tanzania and The Gambia. The issue also included summaries of previously published research and field articles that appeared in issues 45 and 46 of Field Exchange, which the editors selected because of their relevance to national level information needs.



A total of 12,889 print copies of Issue 4 were distributed (7,775 in English, 3,037 in French and 2,076 in Arabic), and in addition 4,784 soft copies were mailed (3,003 in English, 1,621 in French and 160 in Arabic). During the year email updates of news on the sector were sent out until June 2014 in English

and French (nutrition exchange). After this time, news was placed on the newly established 'newsroom' (www.enonline.net/newsroom) on ENN's re-launched web-

site. A NEX section was developed on the new site in July 2014 to enable easy navigation and searching of NEX articles. From June 2014 to January 2015 there were 9,647 page views of NEX pages.



ENN's online technical forum (en-net)

(<http://www.en-net.org/>)

en-net is an online technical forum hosted and moderated by ENN. Established in 2009, it provides remote field practitioners who work in the emergency food, nutrition and health sectors with rapid access to technical support from expert moderators. By January 2015 there were 1,390 registered subscribers to en-net (registration is required to post a question or answer). During this period there were also 27,836 unregistered users of the site (who viewed content only). A total of 335 questions or vacancies were posted, soliciting 578 responses and overall there were 93,832 en-net page views. In addition, during this year 12,000 en-net CDs (containing all en-net forum content and discussions) were produced and 10,000 were distributed with the 2014 edition of Nutrition Exchange (English and Arabic).

A new Management of Acute Malnutrition in Infants less than 6 months (MAMI) discussion group was initiated in April 2014 with five new technical moderators to provide support to challenging questions. en-net now comprises 15 forum areas, supported by a team of 19 technical moderators who are called on as and when needed, to respond to issues that have not been adequately answered through peer discussion or which require expert input. Since August 2014 en-net has provided a platform for discussion of

nutritional issues related to the Ebola outbreak in West Africa. Two separate questions are highlighted on the en-net portal, one concerning infant feeding in the context of Ebola and the other about nutritional support to both adults and children suffering from Ebola Virus Disease. The infant feeding and Ebola discussion has been viewed 5,600 times and the nutrition guidance discussion 1,500 times. A guidance note was proposed by an independent consultant and posted on en-net has been developed and subsequently published by WHO, UNICEF and WFP as official guidance and is available on our website.

Communication and dissemination of ENNs work – upgrade of ENN's website (www.enonline.net)

During 2014 a complete revision of the website was undertaken to improve usability of the site. The revamped site now includes a new dedicated area of the website for Field Exchange, Nutrition Exchange and e-net that gives increased access to articles, previous issues and upcoming and bonus content. The site also allows improved communication of the range of work that ENN is involved in, a 'Newsroom' to view sector-wide news and an improved search facility that allows for more effective and user-friendly searching of all ENN and other resources on the website.

There were 214,886 page views of ENN's upgraded website since its launch in July 2014 up until the end of January 2015.



Objective 2 To identify, instigate, implement and publish operations research and technical and systems reviews in order to strengthen the evidence base for policy making, resource allocation and programming.

ENN's operational research programme strengthens the evidence base for emergency nutrition and food security programming. All research activities have involved steering groups of agencies and academics. Collaborators and funders include bilateral donors, UN agencies, and international NGOs. ENN is committed to securing peer review publications and producing technical notes from its research activities in order to share findings and strengthen the evidence base in the sector. More details about ENN's work in this area can be found at www.enonline.net/ourwork

Research on Food Assistance on Nutritional Impact (REFANI)

The Consortium for Research on Food Assistance for Nutritional Impact (REFANI) is a group comprised of Action Against Hunger, Concern Worldwide, ENN and University College of London (UCL) and is a three year project funded by UK aid from the UK Government's Department for International Development (DFID), and co-financed through humanitarian aid from ECHO. The purpose of the consortium is to examine the impact of food assistance (cash, vouchers and/or direct food transfers) on nutrition outcomes. REFANI's primary activities centre on three countries studies where programmes are currently being implemented, including Pakistan Niger and Somalia.

March to August 2014 was the Inception Phase for REFANI. During this time ENN along with other consortium partners conducted a literature review, developed a theory of change, finalised the main research questions, agreed the structure of the technical and managerial oversight, developed and agreed the implementation budget and attended a number of formal and informal REFANI meeting. Pakistan was chosen as ENN's country study and the study protocol was also developed following a field visit by the ENN Principal Investigator (PI) in June. The Pakistan study was designed as a pragmatic longitudinal cluster randomised controlled trial (cRCT) of two cash-based transfer programmes (CTP) (standard and double cash and a fresh food voucher) among 114 villages in Dadu District, Sindh Province. The overall aim of the Pakistan study is to evaluate the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of CTPs on child nutritional status post-intervention at 6 months and at 1 year.

During Inception Phase ENN also spent a considerable amount of time developing a Research Uptake Strategy (RUS) for REFANI. However due to overall budget limitations ENN and ACF agreed that this activity would be taken in-house by ACF in order to reduce the costs.

Following a short delay due to a protracted contract-signing process, the Implementation Phase

began on 23rd October 2014. During this time the ENN PI and ENN Project Manager carried out a field visit to the study site and recruited a Pakistan-based Study Manager, Deputy Study Manager and Qualitative Researcher. The protocol was finalised and ethical approval was sought and subsequently approved by both the National Bioethics Committee in Pakistan and the Western Institutional Review Board. ENN attended a number of key meetings, including the ENN Technical Meeting in Oxford and the REFANI Partners Meeting in London, and finalised the literature review ready for publication.

Stunting and wasting review

This review was borne out of previous work carried out by ENN, which illustrated the divide at programme, policy and financing level between wasting and stunting. This divide has profound implications for how undernourished children across the world receive nutrition interventions and services and may well contribute to the lack of nutritional impact seen in programmes that only address one part of the undernutrition problem. During 2014 a Technical Interest Group (TIG) of 12 renowned experts in child growth and nutrition was



set up and a draft technical note was prepared to form the basis of a one-day meeting held in London on 27th February 2014 and attended by 20 individuals, including all members of the TIG. The objective of this meeting was to discuss the evidence of the relationship between wasting and stunting and the implications this may have for programmes, services and policy. Conclusions from this meeting were produced in the form of a technical briefing paper on the relationship between wasting and stunting, finalised in July 2014 and disseminated during the year. The paper was presented at the ENN hosted Technical

Meeting on Nutrition (TMN), was cited in the Independent Comprehensive Evaluation of the SUN Movement and is the subject of discussion with the UN agencies.

Management of Acute Malnutrition in Infants (MAMI)

Experiences shared with ENN through Field Exchange and in the development of infant feeding in emergencies training materials highlighted problems managing acute management in infants less than six months in NGO supported humani-

tarian operations. Since 2009, ENN has played a key role in gathering experts in the field to investigate this problem. During 2014, ENN completed revisions to a paper submitted for peer review publication on MAMI research priorities. ENN also initiated a number of reviews and papers around MAMI, including an updated review of international and national guideline content on MAMI, community case-management of MAMI, and outcomes of infants in acute malnutrition treatment, based on an analysis of data from NGO's working with this age group.



Objective 3 To facilitate inter-agency cooperation, discussion and agreement on key technical areas

Technical Meeting on Nutrition

On the request of numerous actors in the nutrition and other related sectors, ENN convened the first 'Technical Meeting on Nutrition' (TMN) in Oxford from October 7th to 9th 2014. The meeting was attended by around 120 delegates comprising country representatives, United Nations (UN) agencies, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), donors, academics and independents largely from nutrition; but also some representatives from other sectors including water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), health and social protection. The meeting provided a forum to address specific technical, programming and policy issues relevant to nutrition in emergencies and high burden contexts, to share and appraise key research and discuss ongoing policy and programme challenges, and to provide 'space' for informal technical exchange. Sessions at the meeting covered topics such as; international governance and architecture, WASH and nutrition, cash programming and nutrition in the context of the Syria humanitarian response, wasting/stunting linkages, national government experiences (Ethiopia, Vietnam and Egypt), acute malnutrition programming and group work for issues identified by par-

ticipants as warranting more discussion. A total of 41 presentations were given in various formats (plenary, market place and parallel sessions). See <http://www.enonline.net/ourwork/enn-meetings/tmn2014> to view the meeting report.

A meeting evaluation questionnaire was completed to solicit feedback. Of the 60 participants who completed these, 16% rated the meeting as excellent, 37% rated the meeting as very good and 32% rated the meeting as good (total of 85% rating as good, very good or excellent). The quality of presentations was also considered good, very good or excellent; 83% for plenary, 91% for market place and 93% for parallel sessions. Ninety per cent of respondents also valued the time given within the agenda for networking.

Infant and young child feeding in emergencies (IFE)

(<http://www.enonline.net/ifecoregroup>) Since 1999, the ENN has been an active member of an interagency collaboration, the IFE Core Group, an expert advocacy and resource group on infant and young child feeding in emergencies. Since 2004, the ENN has been the coordinating agency and institutional 'home' of the IFE Core

Group. The IFE Core Group's work to date has centred on development of policy guidance and capacity building tools, capturing and learning from what happens in emergency response with regard to infant and young child feeding and promoting policy and practice change in the context of preparedness and response.

During the first half of 2014, ENN contributed to the content of an international documentary regarding the use of milk in emergencies named 'Milk'. This documentary brings an international focus to the politics, pop culture, stigma and controversies surrounding birth and infant feeding over the backdrop of the five continents. For more information see <http://www.filmbianc.com>

Also during the year, ENN coordinated technical input from UNICEF, WHO, CDC and from field staff, and contributed content to draft guidance on infant feeding in the context of Ebola. ENN also identified and highlighted key gaps in evidence and called for collaboration on en-net and in an ENN presentation to a webinar on Ebola by the US based Core Group, in December 2014.

Objective 4 To seek to more effectively represent the needs of practitioners in global leadership and stewardship fora

ENN has maintained a contribution to policy guidance and strategy development at global level and, in some instances, has taken a lead on behalf of practitioner agencies. During 2014, ENN was engaged in the following activities:

Support to the ACF-led campaign on acute malnutrition

Early in 2014, ENN supported the ACF-led campaign on Acute Malnutrition (<http://www.generation-nutrition.org/en>) by providing technical, financing and global architecture direction for the campaign messages. ACF drew heavily on ENN's previous work on Government and Donor Financing Arrangements for Scale Up and on ENN's call for a continuum of care for the malnourished child.

Engagement in the Global Nutrition Cluster (GNC)

ENN is a core partner of the GNC. ENN chaired and presented in GNC meetings in March and September 2014. Through the first half of 2014, ENN worked closely with the GNC and partners to develop the GNC 2014-16 workplan with specific

attention to knowledge management (KM). ENN has been identified as the lead agency on KM in the GNC information and knowledge management taskforce, created in early 2014. This responds to a strong recommendation emerging from the GNC governance review. ENN developed a two year costed workplan based on three priority KM activities for the GNC: a scoping exercise with country cluster coordinators to identify key experiences, issues and challenges; pro-active support to develop field articles and case studies around priority themes that would be compiled into a special edition of Field Exchange (2015); and expansion of en-net with a cluster-specific section and a French site. The GNC (UNICEF) funding has been secured via a UNICEF Project Cooperation Agreement to undertake two aspects of this workplan in 2015.

Networking on MAMI

ENN facilitates a small informal MAMI interest group looking to further research in this area and to connect operational agencies with research capacity, to researchers for advice, and to help

complement and coordinate research activities. During 2014, the group expanded to include Save the Children to inform operational research that SC-US are planning in Bangladesh.

Attendance at international meetings

ENN represented at a number of other international meetings during 2014, as follows;

- ENN presented at the IAEA MAM meeting in Vienna on a number of topics – a) co-authored paper on the physiological processes for wasting and stunting; b) findings of research on nutrition outcomes with cash programming in Niger; c) evidence gaps on MAM management for infants < 6 months. ENN also participated in a panel discussion on cash;
- An ENN consultant attended a FAO hosted conference in Addis Ababa in May 2014 on nutrition resilience;
- An ENN Technical Director attended and presented at the Vienna Malnutrition Task Force meeting in November 2014, and;
- An ENN Technical Director attended the influential ICN-2 conference in Rome in November 2014.

Staff & Associates

Finance and Management

Income received from donors increased by £102,783 in the year to £607,675 (2014 £504,892). ENN returned an operating surplus of £27,931 (2014 : surplus of £844). This increased the total reserves to £222,798 (2014: £194,867). The cash balance at the year end amounted to £151,302 (2014: £150,178). OFDA (USAID) continued as the most significant donor with their current grant due to finish in September 2015. Irish Aid funded £157,580 in the year to support a total of 7 projects and their support costs. ENN has also received financial support from various international non-governmental organisations (INGOs) and United Nations (UN) agencies that provide recurrent annual funding to support Field Exchange in particular. Although competition for grant funding continues to provide challenges, the relationships with stakeholders remains strong and discussions relating to both recurrent funding and future grant funding are ongoing and positive.

ENN Income & Expenditure Statement

For the Year to 31st January 2015

	GBP
Income	650,350
AAH	114,749
CIDA	16,610
Concern Worldwide	3,571
IMC	1,424
Irish Aid	157,580
OFDA	218,857
Other Income	50,356
Save the Children UK	1,600
UNHCR	5,600
Unicef	80,003
Expenditure	622,744
Wages & salaries	350,025
Travelling	28,685
Rent, rates & utilities	9,567
Insurance	3,903
Telephone and fax	5,177
Computer software and maintenance costs	3,325
Internet & website charge	8,208
Printing, postage and stationery	2,510
Sundry expenses	1,226
Production and printing	35,473
Equipment and supplies	150
Meeting costs	15,296
Event cost	4,401
Entertaining	61
Auditor's remuneration	8,700
Consultancy fees	148,260
Bank charge	(2,168)
Foreign currency (gain)/loss	(55)
Interest Received	365
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	844

Technical Nutrition Team



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Marie McGrath:
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Operations Team



Thom Banks:
Project
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Matt Todd:
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Manager.



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Charlotte Roberts:
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Clara Ramsay:
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Additional ENN expertise is provided by:



Orna O'Reilly:
Designs and
produces all of
ENNs
publications.



Phil Wilks:
Provides IT
expertise.



Tamsin Walters:
en-net moderator.

Trustees

Jeremy Shoham and Marie McGrath.

Bruce Laurence: Director of Public Health, Bath and North East Somerset, UK. Previously he was Medical Director of the UK-based NGO, Merlin, and has also worked with Oxfam and MSF.

Nigel Milway: A senior executive with British Telecom for over 14 years, Nigel is now Director of his own leadership and coaching consultancy.

Victoria Lack: A Family Nurse Practitioner in urgent care and General Practice in North Yorkshire, Vicky was previously a Lecturer in Public Health and Primary Care, at City University, London and a field worker with ACF.

Arabella Duffield: An independent nutritionist with academic and field experience in nutrition and food security.

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Supporting agencies in 2014/15:

